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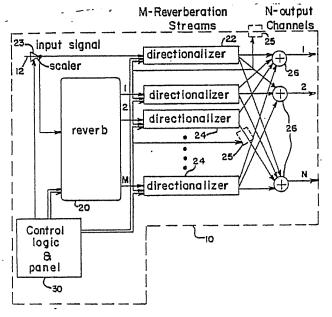
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(54) Title: SPATIAL REVERBERATION

(57) Abstract

In order to capture both the temporal and spatial dimensions of a three-dimensional natural reverberant environment, reverberant streams (1, 2,...M) are generated and directionalized (22, 24) to simulate a selected model environment (80) utilizing pinna cues and other directional cues to simulate reflected sound from various other spatial regions of the model environment.



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SPATIAL REVERBERATION

This invention relates generally to the field of acoustics and more particularly to a method and apparatus for reverberant sound processing and reproduction which captures both the temporal and spatial dimensions of a three-dimensional natural reverberant environment.

A natural sound environment comprises a continuum of sound source locations including direct signals from the location of the sources and indirect reverberant signals reflected from the surrounding environment. Reflected sounds are most notable in the concert hall environment in which many echoes reflected from various different surfaces in the room producing the impression of space to the listener. This effect can vary in evoked subjective responses, for example, in an auditorium environment it produces the sensation of being surrounded by the Most music heard in modern times is either in the comfort of one's home or in an auditorium and for this reason most modern recorded music has some reverberation added before distribution either by a natural process (i.e., recordings made in concert halls) or by artificial processes (such as electronic reverberation techniques).

When a sound event is transduced into electrical signals and reproduced over loudspeakers and headphones, the experience of the sound event is altered dramatically due to the loss of information utilized by the auditory system to determine the spatial location of the sound events (i.e., direction and distance cues) and due to the loss of the directional aspects of reflected (i.e., reverberant) sounds. In the prior art, multichannel recording and reproduction techniques including reverberation from the natural environment retain some spatial information, but these techniques do not recreate the spatial sound field of a natural environment and therefore create a listening experience which is spatially impoverished.

A variety of prior art reverberation systems are available which artificially create some of the attributes of natural occurring reverberation and thereby provide some distance

cues and room information (i.e., size, shape, materials, etc..). These existing reverberation techniques produce multiple delayed echoes by means of delay circuits, many providing recirculating delays using feedback loops. A number refinements have been developed including a technique for simulating the movement of sound sources in a reverberant space by manipulating the balance between direct and reflected sound in order to provide the listener with realistic cues as to the perceived distance of the sound source. Another approach simulates the way in which natural reverberation becomes increasingly low pass with time as the result of the absorption of high frequency sounds by the air and reflecting surfaces. This technique utilizes low pass filters in the feedback loop of the reverberation unit to produce the low pass effect.

Despite these improved techniques existing reverberation systems fail in their efforts to simulate real room acoustics resulting in simulated room reverberation that does not sound like real rooms. This is partially due to the fact that these techniques attempt to replicate an overall reverberation typical of large reverberant rooms thereby passing up the opportunity to utilize the full range of possible applications of sound processing applying to many different types of music and natural environments. In addition, these existing approaches attempt only to capture general characteristics of reverberation in large rooms without attempting to replicate any of the exact characteristics that distinguish one room from another, and they do not attempt to make provisions for dynamic changes in the location of the sound source or the listener, thus effectively modeling the dynamic possibility of a natural room environment. In addition, these methods are intended for use in conventional stereo reproduction and make no attempt to localize spatially separate the reverberant sound. One improved technique of reverberation attempts to capture the distribution of reflected sound in a real room by providing each output channel with reverberation that is statistically similar to that coming from part of a reverberant room. Most of these contemporary approaches to simulate reverberation treat

reverberation as totally independent of the location of the sound source within the room and are therefore only suited to simulating large rooms. Furthermore, these approaches provide incomplete spatial cues which produces an unrealistic illusory environment.

In addition to reverberation which provides essential elements of spatial cues and distance cues, much pschyo-acoustic development and research has been done into directional cues which include primarily interaural time differences (i.e. different time of arrival at the two ears), low pass shadow effect of the head, pinna transfer functions, and head and torso related transfer functions. This research has largely been confined to efforts to study each of these cues as independent mechanisms in an effort to understand the auditory system's mechanisms for spatial hearing.

Pinna cues are particularly important cues to determine directionality. It has been found that one ear can provide information to localize sound and even the elevation of sound source can be determined under controlled conditions where the head is restricted and reflections are restricted. which is the exposed part of the external ear, has been shown to be the source of these cues. The ears' pinna performs a transform on the sound by a physical action on the incident sound causing specific spectral modifications unique to Thereby directional information is encoded into the direction. signal reaching the ear drum. The auditory system is then capable of detecting and recognizing these modifications, thus decoding the directional information. The imposition of pinna transfer functions on a sound stream have shown that directional information is conveyed to a listener in an anechoic chamber. Prior art efforts to use pinna cues and other directional cues have succeeded only in directionalizing a sound source but not in localizing (i.e., both direction and distance) the sound source in three-dimensional space.

However, when imposing pinna transfer functions on a sound stream which is reproduced in a natural environment, the projected sound paths are deformed. This is the result of the

fact that the directional cues are altered by the acoustics of the listening environment, particularly as a result of the pattern of the reflected sounds. The reflected sound of the listening environment creates conflicting locational cues, thus altering the perceived direction and the sound image quality. This is due to the fact that the auditory system tends to combine the conflicting and the natural cues evaluating all available auditory information together to form a composite spatial image.

It is accordingly an object of this invention to provide a method and apparatus to simulate reflected sound along with pinna cues imposed upon the reflected sound in a manner so as to overwhelm the characteristics of the actual listening environment to create a selected spatio-temporal distribution of reflected sound.

It is another object of the invention to provide a method and apparatus to utilize spectral cues to localize both the direct sound source and its reverberation in such a way as to capture the perceptual features of a three-dimensional listening environment.

It is another object of the invention to provide a method and apparatus for producing a realistic illusion of three-dimensional localization of sound source utilizing a combination of directional cues and controlled reverberation.

It is another object of the invention to provide a novel audio processing method and apparatus capable of controlling sound presence and definition independently.

Briefly, according to one embodiment of the invention, an audio signal processing method is provided comprising the steps of generating at least one reverberant stream of audio signals simulating a desired configuration of reflected sound and superimposing at least one pinna directional cue on at least one part of one reverberant stream. In addition, sound processing apparatus are provided for creating illusory sound sources in three-dimensional space. The apparatus comprises an input for receiving input audio signals and reverberation means for generating at least one reverberant stream of audio signals from the input audio signals to simulate a desired configuration of

reflected sound. A directionalizing means is also provided for applying to at least part of one reverberant stream a pinna transfer function to generate at least one output signal.

Brief Description of the Drawings

The invention, together with further objects and advantages thereof, may be understood by reference to the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

Figure 1 is a generalized block diagram illustrating a specific embodiment of a spatial reverberator system according to the invention.

Figure 2A is a block diagram illustrating a specific embodiment of a modular spatial reverberator having M reverberation streams according to the invention.

Figure 2B is a block diagram illustrating a specific embodiment of a spatial reverberation system utilizing a computer to process signals.

Figure 3A is a block diagram illustrating a specific embodiment of a feedback delay buffer used as a reverberation subsystem.

Figure 3B is a block diagram illustrating a specific embodiment of a second delay feedback reverberation subsystem utilized by the invention.

Figure 3C is block diagram illustrating parallel reverberation units utilizing feedback.

Figure 4A is an image model of a top view of the horizontal plane of a rectangular room.

Figure 4B is an image model of a side view of the vertical plane of a rectangular room.

Figure 4C is an image model of a rear view of the vertical plane of a rectangular room.

Figure 5 is a detailed block diagram illustrating a spatial reverberator for simulating the acoustics of a rectangular room according to the invention.

Figure 6 is a detailed block diagram illustrating the inner reverberation network shown in Figure 5.

Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiment

Figure 1 is a generalized block diagram illustrating a spatial reverberator 10 according to the invention. Input audio signals are supplied to the spatial reverberator via an input 12 and processed under the control of the spatial reverberator in to control parameters applied to the reverberator 10 via an input 14. The spatial reverberator 10 processes the sound input signals to produce a set of output signals for audio reproduction or recording at the spatial reverberator outputs 16, as shown. The spatial reverberator 10 processes the sound input signal applied to the input 12 such when the output signals are reproduced. an illusory experience is created of being within a natural acoustic environment by creating the perception of reflected sound coming all, around in a natural manner, Thus, the spatial reverberator creates the illusion of sound coming from many different directions in three-dimensional space. This is done by using synthesized directional cues superimposed on reverberant sound to create the illusion of reflections from many directions.

As is generally known in the art, the pinna of the outer ear modifies sound impinging upon it so as to provide spectral changes thereby providing spectral cues for sound direction. In addition, other cues provide information to the auditory system to aid in determining the direction of a sound source, such as the shadow effect of the head which occurs when sound on one side of the head is shadowed relative to the ear on the other side of the head for frequencies in which wavelength of the sound is shorter than the diameter of the head. Other similar effects providing directional cues are those caused by reflection of sound off the upper torso, shoulders, head, etc., as well as differences in the time of arrival of a sound between one ear and the other. By simulating these natural directional cues, the spatial reverberator is able to fool the auditory system into ignoring the fact that the sound comes from the location of a speaker, and to create the illusion of threedimensional sound space. This is possible since the auditory

system integrates spectral cues for sound direction with locational cues produced by reflected sound. Thus, the spectral cues are used to directionalize reverberation and distribute it in space in such as way as to simulate the acoustics of a three-dimensional room and so as to avoid creating unnatural and conflicting spatial cues.

The superimposition of spectral cues (i.e. directional cues) upon reverberation improves the simulation of sound source location and provides a mechanism for controlling a number of subjective qualities associated with the location of a sound source but independent of the location. Two of the most important such subjective qualities associated with acoustics are "presence" and "definition." Generally speaking, definition is the perceptual quality of the sound source, while presence refers to the quality of the listening environment. High definition occurs when sound sources are well focused and located in space. Good presence occurs when the listener perceives himself to be surrounded by the sound and the reverberation seems to come from all directions.

These two subjective qualities have substantial bearing on the esthetic value of a sound reproduction. Most studies. however, have found that optimal presence and definition are mutually exclusive, that is, improving the sense of sound presence also diminishes the sense of positional definition. spatial reverberator 10 provides independent control presence and definition. This is possible because not all reflected sound contributes to the quality of presence in the same way. Lateral reflections are necessary for producing good presence while definition is degraded by lateral reflections. Presence of only nonlateral reflections improves the impression of definition. That is, lateral reflections create interaural cross-correlation and support good presence, while ceiling reflections retain a high interaural cross-correlation and support good definition. Thus, by using the spatial reverberator 10 to simulate a reverberant room with dominant early reflections from lateral walls, good presence can be created at the expense of high definition. If emphasis is given

to the ceiling reflections, then high definition can be reinforced. High definition and good presence can also be emphasized at the same time. For example, the lateral reflections can be low pass filtered providing good presence, while also permitting unfiltered ceiling reflections to support high definition. This permits audio reproduction with esthetic values that could not be achieved in a natural physical environment.

Also, current approaches to simulating reverberation generally treat reverberation as totally independent of the location of the sound source within the room, and therefore are suited to simulating very large rooms where this is assumption is approximately true. The spatial reverberator 10 takes into account the location of both the sources and listener and is capable of simulating all listening environments.

Since directional cues such as pinna cues cannot alone provide total control of perceived direction because perceived direction is the result of the auditory system combining all available cues to produce a single locational image, the spatial reverberator must overcome or control the reflected sound present in the listening environment. This is accomplished by simulating reflected sound along with directional cues such as pinna cues in such a way as to overwhelm the perceptual affect of the natural environment. The spatial reverberator 10 can emphasize (e.g., increased amplitude, emphasis of certain frequencies, etc.) first order reflections so as to mask reflections in the actual listening environment.

In order to determine the pattern formed by sound reflected off the walls of a room, each reflected sound image is viewed as emanating from a unique virtual source outside the room. This is referred to as the image model. The particular pattern formed by the reflected sound provides locational information about the position of the sound source in the environment, especially when the sound source begins to move. This dynamic locational information from the environment is especially important when static locational cues are weak. Further, because the simulation parameters in the spatial

reverberator 10 can be dynamically changed, it is possible to simulate the exact changes in the spatio-temporal distribution of the reverberation associated with a moving sound source, a moving listener or a changing room. Thus, the spatial reverberator 10 can accurately model an actual room and accurately create the perceptual qualities of a moving source or listener.

The lengths of the delay paths for determining the simulated reflected sounds can be calculated from the room dimensions and the listener's position in the room so as to give an accurate replication of the arrival time of the first, second and third order reflections. Subsequent reflections determined statistically in terms of both spatial and temporal placement so that the evolution of the reverberation Each of the reverberation channels is separably directionalized using pinna transfer functions as well as other directional cues so as to produce spatially positioned reverberation streams.

Referring now to Figure 2A, there is shown a block diagram illustrating specific subsystem organization for the spatial reverberator 10. This system may be implemented in many possible configurations, including a modular configuration, or a configuration implemented within a central computer using software based digital processing as illustrated An audio signal to be processed by the spatial in Figure 2B. reverberator 10 is coupled from the input 12 through an amplitude scaler 23 and then to a reverberator subsystem 20 and to a first directionalizer 22, as shown. The amplitude scaler 23 may be a linear scaler to simulate the simple absorption characteristics of a natural environment or alternatively the scaler 23 may include low pass filtering to simulate the low-pass filtering nature of a natural sound environment.

The reverberator subsystem 20 processes the input signal to produce multiple outputs (1-M in the illustrated embodiment, where M may be any non zero integer), each of which is a different reverberation stream simulating the reflected sound coming to the listener from a different spatial region. The input signal is also processed by the directionalizer 22

which superimposes directional cues, preferably including pinna cues, on the input audio signal and produces an output for each output channel of the system representative of a direct (i.e., unreflected) sound signal. These directional cues in the preferred embodiment include using synthesized pinna transfer functions to directionalize the audio signal. The reverberant streams produced by the reverberator 20 are audio signal streams containing multiple delayed signals representing simulation of a selected configuration of reflected sounds. Each stream is different and is coupled, as shown, to a separate directionalizer 24. The reverberator 20 uses known techniques to produce reverberant streams. Suitable directionalizers have been described in patent number 4,219,696 issued August 26, 1980, to Kogure, et al. which is hereby incorporated by reference.

The resulting directionalized output signals from the directionalizers 22, 24 are coupled, as shown, to N mixing circuits 26. Each mixing circuit 26 sums the signals coupled to it and produces a single reverberant audio output to be applied to a sound reproducing transducer, such as a loudspeaker or headphones. Alternatively, a filter circuit 25 may be selectively added to directionalizer inputs or outputs to permit such effects as enhanced presence and definition. Many configurations of this general organization can be implemented varying from a single output to any number of output channels. In a stereo or a binaural system, there would be only two output channels.

The characteristics of the sound environment and sound illusions created by the spatial reverberator 10 are controlled via a control panel 30. Control arguments and parameters can be entered via the control panel 30 such as room dimensions, absorption co-efficients, position of the listener and sound sources, etc. In addition, other psychological parameters such as indexes for presence and definition, for the amount of perceived reverberation, etc. may be specified through the control panel 30. The control panel 30 comprises conventional terminal devices such as a keyboard, joy stick, mouse, CRT, etc. which may be manipulated by the user for input of desired

parameters. Control signals generated in response to the manipulation of the control panel devices are coupled, as shown, to the reverberator 20, the directionalizers 22 and 24, the scalers 23, and filters 25 thereby controlling these subsystems. The control signals for the reverberator 20 can include scale factors, time delays and filter parameters, while the control signals for the directionalizer 22, 24 can include azimuth angle and elevation and the signals for the scalers 23 and filters 25 can include scale factors and filter parameters.

The input signal coupled to the first directionalizer subsystem 22 is modified to determine an illusory direction of the amplitude scaled and/or low-passed filtered non-reverberant input signal. The reverberator subsystem 20 processes the input signal to produce multiple audio reverberation streams simulating a different temporal pattern of reflected sound coming to the listener from a different direction (i.e., spatial region). These streams are coupled to different directionalizers which determine the illusory direction of each reverberation stream. The output signals directionalizer are mixed together to create a composite of the input signal and the directionalized reverberant streams which together simulate a three dimensional sound field. directionalizer outputs may also be used directly, for example, they may be individually recorded on a multi-track recording system to permit an operation to experiment at a later time with various mixing schemes.

The number of separate output audio channels is determined by the number of channels available for sound reproduction (or recording) but for binaural listening there must be at least two in order to present different sound signals to the listener's left and right ears. For a stereo system, each directionalizer 23, 24 has two outputs, a right ear component and a left ear component of its directionalized audio sound stream. All the right ear components are then mixed together by a first mixer and all left ear components are mixed together by a second mixer to produce two composite output channels.

In the embodiment illustrated in Figure 2B, each of the subsystems of Figure 2A are implemented in software using conventional digital filtering, delay, and other known digital processing techniques. A computer program, written in the C programming language, for use with a system to simulate a rectangular room is provided in the attached Appendix A as part The configuration of Figure 2B includes of this specification. an analog to digital (A/D) converter 32 for converting an input audio signal coupled to the input 12 to digital form to permit processing by the central processing unit (CPU) 40. The CPU 40 processes the signals as described above with regard to Figure 1 and 2A and generates output signals which are converted to analog form by the digital to analog (D/A) converters 36, as shown. outputs for the CPU 40 may also be unmixed directionalized signals permitting multi-track recording for subsequent mixing. A control panel, as described above with reference to Figure 2A is provided for input of control signals to control the illustrated spatial reverberator 10.

Referring to Figures 3A and 3B, there is illustrated block diagrams of the two types of reverberation units used to implement the reverberation subsystem 20. Reverberation unit 50 shown in Figure 3A (hereinafter referred to as a "type 1" unit) couples the input signal through a summing circuit 52 to a delay buffer 54 and feedback control circuit 56, which is placed at the end of the delay buffer 54, as shown. The output signal is fed back to the summing circuit 52 and is coupled to an output terminal 58, as shown. In one embodiment of this circuit, the feedback co-efficient is determined by a single-pole low pass filter that continuously modifies the recirculating feedback to simulate the low pass filtering effects of sound propagation through air.

The reverberation unit 60, shown in Figure 3B (hereinafter referred to as a "type 2" unit) couples the input audio signal through a mixer 62 to a delay buffer 64 and a feedback circuit 66. The output of the feedback circuit 66 is coupled, as shown, to a second delay buffer 68 and a mixer 72. The output of the delay buffer 68 is coupled to a feedback

control 70 the output of which is coupled to the mixer 72 and the mixer 62, as shown. In this type of reverberation unit 60, the actual feedback occurs after the second delay buffer 68 and its feedback control 70. Thus the output of the reverberation unit 60 is the sum of the outputs of each delay buffer feedback control pair. The type 2 units are most suitable for simulating a frequently occurring reverberation condition in which there is a repeating pattern of two different delays.

The feedback control of these reverberation units 50, 60, can take the form of multiplication by a single feedback coefficient, a single-pole low pass filter, or filtering with a filter of unrestricted order. These feedback control systems effectively simulate absorption characteristics of the passage of sound through air and its reflection off walls. Use of a single multiplication captures the overall absorption of sound, while a low pass filter captures the frequency dependence of the absorption. In more complex implementations, a filter of unrestricted order can be used to capture other time and frequency dependent properties of sound absorption, reflection, and transmission.

To fórm a reverberation subsystem 20, type 1 and type 2 reverberation units are combined to create a system capable of producing multiple reverberation streams in parallel. To produce parallel reverberation streams, type 1 and type reverberation units are coupled in parallel with outputs of individual reverberation units fed back into the input of other individual units. The outputs of the individual parallel reverberation units can then be used as reverberation streams. Figure 3C illustrates this concept showing a type 2 unit 74 and a parallel type 1 unit 73 with the output of each fed back into the input of the other to produce two reverberant streams. mixing together of parallel reverberation unit outputs to produce one or more channels of reverberation streams produces a composite reverberant signal that has a rapidly increasing temporal density of reflections. This creates a more natural sounding result than that produced by reverberation units

utilizing series combinations, even when directional cues are not superimposed as in a complete spatial reverberator.

Using this general approach, a spatial reverberator can be configured based upon the geometry of a selected room by simulating the early reflections of a simulated room and treating them as inputs to a reverberator with recirculating delays configured based upon the exact geometry of the room for which the early reflections were simulated. In addition, information concerning the incidence angles at which simulated reflections arrive is retained.

A system configuration of а binaural which accurately simulates the spatio-temporal reverberator reverberation pattern of a rectangular room is illustrated by Figures 5 and 6. The system simulates a rectangular room which is modeled using an image model for that room, as shown in Figures 4A, 4B and 4C Image modeling is a known technique for modeling acoustic affects in a room which assumes that each reflected sound can be viewed as originating from a virtual sound source outside the actual physical room. Each virtual sound source is contained within a virtual room that duplicates the physical room (i.e., is a mirror image of the physical room).

In Figures 4A and 4B, integer X, Y, Z coordinates are used to specify virtual rooms. Thus, Figure 4A shows the image model for the horizontal plane for a model rectangular room 80, with first order reflections (indicated by the virtual sources numbered as 1) modeled by virtual rooms 80, 84, 86, 88, and higher order reflections (indicated by virtual sources number 2, 3 and 4) represented by a grid of virtual rooms (i.e., sources) surrounding the actual source room 80. Similar grids of virtual rooms shown in Figures 4B and 4C illustrate the image model for the side view of the vertical plane and rear view of the vertical plane, respectively.

In Figures 4A, 4B, and 4C virtual room coordinates are shown for each virtual source and these coordinates are shown on Figures 5 and 6 to illustrate the correspondence between the reverberation network and each virtual source. It can be seen that the resulting spatial reverberator of Figure 5 and 6 will be

accurate in space and time for first and second and some third order reflections. Reflections beyond the third order are statistically correct and are only near their exact spatiotemporal position.

A detailed block diagram of a binaural spatial reverberator for simulating a rectangular room (which is a specific embodiment of the general block diagram of Figure 2A with the control system not shown) is shown in Figure 5. The input audio signal to be processed is applied to the input 12 and coupled directly to an amplitude scaler 23, which may optionally be a low-pass filter, to scale the amplitude of the signal and thereby simulate sound absorption. This signal is then coupled to a directionalizer 90 which generates two different outputs of directionalized audio signals simulating direct sounds (i.e., non-reflected) which are coupled to the mixers 102 and 104, as indicated in Figure 5. These two signals represent the right and the left ear components of the directionalized signal.

The input signal is also coupled to a multiple-tap delay circuit 92 within the reverberation subsystem 20. delay circuit 92 produces six first order delayed audio signals with separate delays determined by the location of the listener in the room, location of the source in the room and the dimensions of the room. These six signals therefore represent the four first order reflections shown on the horizontal plane of Figure 4A and the two first order reflections shown on the vertical plane of Figure 4B. These six first order reflection signals are attenuated by scalers (or filters) 93 coupled as shown to six directionalizer circuits 92 which directionalize each attenuated first order reflection. The exact direction of each reflection is computed from the position of the listener in the model room and the position of the virtual sound sources as shown in Figures 4A, 4B, and 4C. The single delay buffer with multiple taps 92 thus serves to properly place these reflections in time. The distance between the listener's position and the position of the first order virtual sound sources (see Figures 4A, 4B, and 4C) is utilized to compute the time delay and the amplitude of the simulated reflection. By reference to Figures

4A. 4B, and 4C it can be seen that the first order virtual sources are contained in the virtual rooms having the coordinates (1, 0, 0), (0, 1, 0), (-1, 0, 0), (0, -1, 0), (0, 0, 1), (0, 0, -1).

Amplitude scaling and/or filtering is used to take into account the overall absorption of sound for each reflection by scaling (and/or filtering) each reflection to the correct amplitude using a multiplication coefficient or low-pass filter representative of the signal absorption. The resulting signal is passed into a directionalizer 92 where the signal is processed to superimpose directional cues, including pinna cues, to provide the directional characteristics to each reverberation stream. Each directionalizer 92 produces two output signals (i.e., one for each ear), one of which is coupled as indicated to the mixer 102 and the other of which is coupled to the mixer 104.

The multiple tap delay buffer 92 also has twelve additional taps for the twelve second order reflections which are coupled through amplitude scalers 95 to the inner-reverberation network 94 via a bus 96. These second order reflections are associated with the virtual sources contained in the virtual rooms that touch the junction of two walls in the model room as shown in Figures 4A, 4B, and 4C. The direction, time delay, and amplitude of each second order reflection is computed in the same manner as for first order reflections. The time delays are implemented in the same delay buffer 92 as the first order delays and the amplitude is scaled by the appropriate amount by amplitude scalers 95. The second order virtual sources shown in Figures 4A, 4B, and 4C are those having virtual sources numbered The virtual room coordinates for those second order virtual sources (see Figures 4A, 4B, and 4C) are as follows: (1, 0, 1), (0, 1, 1), (-1, 0, 1), (0, -1, 1), (1, 1, 0), (-1, 1, 0), (-1, 1, 0)-1, 0), (1, -1, 0), (1, 0, -1), (0, 1, -1), (-1, 0, -1), (0, -1, -1)-1).

The inner reverberation network 94 may be implemented in many configurations, however, the embodiment illustrated in Figure 6 contains twelve reverberation units of the first type and six reverberation units of the second type. Each type 2 unit

is associated with a reverberant stream emanating from a second order virtual room directly behind a first order room (i.e., rooms lined up along a perpendicular line from the center of each wall). For example, with reference to Figure 4A the second order room with coordinates (2, 0, 0) is directly behind the first order room (1, 0, 0). Each type 1 unit is associated with a reverberation stream emanating from a fourth order virtual room directly behind the second order rooms (i.e., rooms lined up along a diagonal line from corners formed by intersection of two walls). For example, the fourth order room. shown in Figure 4A, having the coordinates (2, 2, 0) is directly behind the second order room having the coordinates (1, 1, 0). Thus, the total 18 reverberation units are associated with regions of space for which they produce the correct reverberation stream. Each unit has four adjacent neighbors. For example, the reverberation stream implemented with a type 2 unit 112 (Figure 6) and emanating from the second order virtual room having coordinates (2, 0, 0) is spatially adjacent (and thus feeds back to) to four reverberations streams implemented with type 1 units 113, 114,. 115, and 116. These type 1 units are associated with the fourth order virtual rooms having the coordinates (2, 2, 0), (2, 0, 2), (2, -2, 0) and (2, 0, -2). As shown in Figure 6, each type 2 unit (for example, unit 112) is fed back into the four spatially adjacent type 1 units. This feedback generates the reflections for the virtual rooms between those along the perpendicular lines and those along the diagonal lines.

The time delays for each unit are calculated on the basis of the dimensions of the model room, the illusory spatial position of the sound source, and illusory position of the listener in the simulated environment. The length of the two delay buffers in the type 2 reverberation units are taken from the time of arrival difference of the first and second order reflections and of the second and third order reflections respectively. For example, for the unit associated with the room having the coordinates (2, 0, 0), if T (2, 0, 0) is the predicted time of arrival for a virtual sound source from the virtual room, then the delay buffer lengths can be given as follows:

delay one = T(2, 0, 0) - T(1, 0, 0)delay two = T(3, 0, 0) - T(2, 0, 0)

The time delays for the type 1 reverberation units are determined from the time of arrival difference of the second and fourth order reflections. For the unit associated with the virtual room having the coordinates (1, 1, 0), the delay length can be given as follows:

delay = T(2, 2, 0) - T(1, 1, 0)

The value of the coefficients used within the units to control feedback are calculated on the basis of the distance traveled by reflected sound for the computed delay, the sound absorption of the walls encountered in the sound path, the angle of reflection, and the absorption/reflection/diffusion properties of the simulated environment.

The resulting output streams from the inner reverberation network 94 are each coupled to a directionalizer 98 each with two outputs one of which is coupled to the mixing circuit 102 and one of which is coupled to the mixing circuit 104 as indicated in Figure 5. For each of the directionalizers 98 associated with each reverberation stream the proper direction is determined by the position of the virtual sound source (indicated by the coordinates at the outputs in Figure 6). The total mixed signals from mixers 102 and 104 are the two output sound signals which are then each coupled to a reproduction transducer or recorder.

The fully computerized embodiment shown in Figure 2B uses known digital software implementations of the subsystems described and shown in Figures 5 and 6. A program written in the programming language C is provided in Appendix A for determining control parameters including scaling factors, azimuth, elevation, and delays based on input parameters specifying room dimensions, listener position and source position. Appendix B provides a table produced by this program of azimuth, elevation, delay and scale values for the rectangular room system with a listener position of (0, 0, 0), and a source position of 45° azimuth, 30° elevation and distance from listener of 2 meters.

A specific embodiments of the novel spatial reverberator have been described for the purpose of illustrating the manner in which the invention may be made and used. It should be understood that implementation of other variations and modifications of the invention in its various aspects will be apparent to those skilled in the art and that the invention is not limited thereto by the specific embodiment described. It is therefore contemplated to cover by the present invention any and all modifications, variations or equivalents that fall within the true spirit and scope of the underlying principles disclosed and claimed herein.

```
revmap.c ********
           Version 1.0
                   for use in setting up the spatio-temporal pattern
                      of reflections in spatial reverberation.
                      It calculates angles (az, el), delay and scaling for each
                      first and second order reflection and the same on just
                      those third and fourth order reflections paired with each
                 second order reflection in the reverberation units.
           input parameters:
                      x
                                      - listener's x coordinate (meters)
                                       - listener's y coordinate
                      ly
                                      - listener's z coordinate
                                       - width of simulated room (meters)
                      IW
                      rl
                                      - length of simulated room
                                       - height of simulated room
                      rh
                                      - azimuth angle of source (degrees)

    elevation angle of source (degrees)

                      sel
                      ST
                                      - source distance (meters)
           output parameters:
                                 - azimuth incidence angles (degrees)
                      az
                                 - elevation incidence angles (degrees)
                      el
                      delay
                                - reflection latencies (sec)
                               - amplitude scaling associated with delay
#include <stdio.h>
#include <math.h>
#define SPM .0034
                                           * msec per meter conversion
#define DPR 57.29578
#define TINY 1.0E-30
#define DIMX 0
                                          * degrees per radian conversion
                                            no zero dividing!
                                            * dimension number for x in map
#define DIMY 1
                                            /* dimension number for y in map
#define DIMZ 2
                                            /* dimension number for z in map
#define AZ 0
                                            /* first output argument
#define EL 1
                                            /* second output argument
                                            /* third output argument
#define DELAY 2
#define SCALE 3
                                             /* fourth output argument
#define REFDIST 1
                                    /* reference distance for direct signal */
/* Set up maps of image rooms
         int map1[3][6]=\{0,0,1,0,-1,0,
                           0,1,0,-1,0,0,
                           1,0,0,0,0,-1};
         int map2[3][18]=\{0,0,1,0,-1,0,1,2,1,0,-1,-2,-1,0,1,0,-1,0,
                            0,1,0,-1,0,2,1,0,-1,-2,-1,0,1,1,0,-1,0,0,
                            2,1,1,1,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,-1,-1,-1,-1,-2};
         int map3[3][18]=\{0,0,2,0,-2,0,2,3,2,0,-2,-3,-2,0,2,0,-2,0,
                            0,2,0,-2,0,3,2,0,-2,-3,-2,0,2,2,0,-2,0,0,
         3,2,2,2,2,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,2,-2,-2,-2,-3\};\\ char ord[2][5]={"3rd:","4th:"};
main(narg,argv)
int narg;
```

```
- 21 -
char *argv[];
           float cvs();
           float source[4], first[4], second[4], third[4], fdelay[6];
           float x,y,z,xs,ys,zs,xi,yl,zi,xr,yr,zr,r,sum,sum2,avg,sd;
           int ir,ix,iy,iz,i,j,k,iord;
 if (narg < 9) ^{-}{ iprintf(stderr,"USAGE: -smap ix ly lz rw rl rh az el r [az el r . . . ]0);
           exit(-1);
       xi = atof(argv[1]);
       yl = atol(argv[2]);
       zl = atol(argv[3]);
       xr = atof(argv[4]);
       yr = atol(argv[5]);
       zr = atof(argv[6]);
       source AZ = atof(argv[7]);
source EL = atof(argv[8]);
       r = atof(argv[9]);
       printf("Source0azimuth:%3.2f degrees0elevation:%3.2f degrees0distance:%3.2f meters0,source[AZ],source[EL],r); printf("Listener:%2.2f%2.2f%2.2f%2.2f0,xl,yl,zl);
       printf("Room:%2.2f%2.2f%2.2f0,xr,yr,zr);
       xl *= SPM;
                                                        /* SPM converts meters to seconds */
       yl == SPM;
       zl *= SPM;
       xr *= SPM;
       yr *= SPM;
       zr == SPM;
/* Calculate direct signal characteristics then shift origin
       stoc(source[AZ],source[EL],atof(argv[9])*SPM,&xs,&ys,&zs);
source[DELAY] = sqrt(xs*xs+ys*ys+zs*zs); /* th
                                                                           /* the direct sound path */
       printf("0xiyizorderazeldelayscale0);
      printi("000Src:%3.1f%3.1f.0000%.4f0,source[AZ],source[EL]
                      REFDIST/r);
       printf("
       xs += xl;
                                                                                      /* shift origin
       ys += yl;
                                                                                      /* to room center
      Calculate coordinates of the image model virtual sources
      for (ir = 0; ir <= 5; ir++) {

x = cvs(map1|DIMX|[ir], xs, xr) - xl;

y = cvs(map1|DIMY|[ir], ys, yr) - yl;
                                                                                            /* first order
          z = cvs(map1|DiMT||ir|, ys, yr) - yi
ctcs(x,y,z,&first|AZ|,&first|EL|,&r);
first|DELAY| = r - source|DELAY|;
          fdelay[ir] = r;
          first[SCALE] = source[DELAY]/(source[DELAY]+first[DELAY]);
printf("%d%d%d",map1[DIMX][ir],map1[DIMY][ir],map1[DIMZ][ir]);
printf("1st:%3.1f%3.1f%.4f%.4f%.4f%.
                 first[AZ],first[EL],first[DELAY],first[SCALE]);
      }
      for (ir = 0; ir \leq 17; ir++ ) {
                                                                                 /* second & higher order */
        printf("-
         x = cvs(map2[DIMX][ir], xs, xr) - xi;

y = cvs(map2[DIMY][ir], ys, yr) - yi;

z = cvs(map2[DIMZ][ir], zs, zr) - zi;
```

```
if (iord == 0) {
    second[DELAY] = second[DELAY] - idelay[i];
    second[SCALE] = idelay[i]/(idelay[i]+second[DELAY]);
        printf("2nd:%3.1f%3.1f%.4f%.4f0,
                 second[AZ], second[EL], second[DELAY], second[SCALE])
        printf("%d%d%d",map3[DIMX][ir],map3[DIMY][ir],map3[DIMZ][ir]);
        printf("%s%.4f%.4f0,
              ord[iord],third[DELAY],third[SCALE]);
     }
}
/***** ctos ******
           Given the 3D Cartesian coordinates of a point, ctos calculates
           the angular postion of the point in a spherical coordinate system
           with 0 degrees azimuth situated at the +y axis and 0 degrees
           elevation at ear level. ctos also returns the distance of
           point from the origin.
           input parameters:
                      x
                                 - x coordinate of point
                      y
                                 - y coordinate of point
                      Z
                                 - z coordinate of point
           output parameters:
                                - horizontal plane angle made with +y axis
                      87
                      el
                                - vertical plane angle made with +y axis
                                - radius from origin to point
ctos(x,y,z,az,el,r)
float x,y,z,*az,*el,*r;
         float rad;
        *r = sqrt( x*x + y*y + z*z );

*el = asin( z/(*r) ) * DPR;

if (x == 0.) x = TINY;

rad = atan ( y/x );
        if (x > 0.) *az = 90. - (rad * DPR);
        if (x < 0.) *az = 270. - (rad * DPR);
/***** stoc ******
           Given the angular postion of the point in a spherical coordinate
          system with 0 degrees azimuth situated at the +y axis and 0 degrees
           elevation at ear level and the distance of the point from the
           origin, stoc returns the 3D Cartesian coordinates of the point.
```

```
input parameters:
                           82
                                       - horizontal plane angle made with +y axis
                                       - vertical plane angle made with +y axis
- radius from origin to point
                           el
              output parameters:
                                      - x coordinate of point
- y coordinate of point
                       _-x ·
                                       - z coordinate of point
stoc(az,el,r,x,y,z)
float az,el,r,*x,*y,*z;
          *z = sin ( el/DPR ) * r;

r = sqrt ( r*r - (*z)*(*z) );

*x = cos ( (90. - az) /DPR ) * r;

*y = sin ( (90. - az) /DPR ) * r;
                                                                         /* horizontal radius */
}
/***** CVS ******
             ic - image room coordinate
             cs - coordinate of source (rel. to room center)
             er - room measure on the dimension passed
             vs - coordinate of virtual source
float 'cvs(ic,cs,cr,vs)
          int ic;
          float cs,cr,vs;
{
          if (ic == 0) vs = cs;
                    if (( abs(ic) % 2) != 1) vs = cs;
                    else vs = -cs;
vs = (float)ic * cr + vs;
          return(vs);
}
```

So	ele ⁻	vation:	45. - 30.0 2.00	00 degr	ees
	stener: om:		.00 1.0 5.00 6.	00 -1. 00 7.	00 00
ix	iy	iz	order	az	el delay scale
0	0	0	Src:	45.0	30.0 .0000 0.5000
0	0 1	1 0 0	1st:	23.8	77.8 0.0210 0.2443 18.2 0.0041 0.6262
1 0	-1	0	lst:	72.0	14.1 0.0071 0.4886
-1	0	0	1st:	281.1	9.0 0.0250 0.2137
0		-1	1st:	45.0	14.1 0.0071 0.4886 6.1 0.0250 0.2137 9.0 0.0150 0.3114 -73.9 0.0144 0.3203
0	0 0	2 3	2nd: 3rd:	45.0	83.4 0.0167 0.6249 Type 2 delay_a 0.0237 0.6274 Type 2 delay_b
0	1 2	1 2	2nd: 4th:		69.2 0.0223 0.2338 0.0390 0.3883 Type 1 delay
1 2	0 0	1 2		72.0	63.6 0.0236 0.2240 0.0335 0.4299 Type 1 delay
0 0	-1 -2	1 2	2nd: 4th:	172.4	40.7 0.0349 0.1630 0.0212 0.5983 Type 1 delay
-1 -2	0 0	1 2	2nd: 4th:	281.1	51.6 0.0279 0.1959 0.0245 0.5257 Type 1 delay
0 0	2 3	0 0	2nd: 3rd:	5.3	4.3 0.0276 0.2822 Type 2 delay_a 0.0052 0.7900 Type 2 delay_b
1 2	1 2	0	2nd: 4th:	53.7	12.0 0.0095 0.4174 0.0428 0.2473 Type 1 delay
2 3	0 0	0 0	2nd: 3rd:	83.8	5.1 0.0178 0.4384 Type 2 delay_a 0.0086 0.7145 Type 2 delay_b
! :	-1 -2	0 0	2nd: 4th:	157.7	5.7 0.0273 0.1997 0.0190 0.5694 Type 1 delay
)) 	-2 -3	0 0	2nd: 3rd:	173.5	5.3 -0.0016 1.0527 Type 2 delay_a 0.0353 0.4677 Type 2 delay_b
1 2	-1 -2	0	2nd: 4th:	214.0	5.1 0.0312 0.1790 0.0094 0.7013 Type 1 delay

-2	0	0	2nd:	277.9 6.4 0.0017 0.9286 Type 2 delay_a
-3		0	3rd:	0.0251 0.4872 Type 2 delay_b
-1	1	0	2nd:	294.0 8.3 0.0166 0.2903
-2	2		4th:	0.0306 0.3848 Type 1 delay
0	1	-1	2nd:	23.8 -63.2 0.0161 0.2975
	2	-2	4th:	0.0403 0.3266 Type 1 delay
1 2	0	-1	2nd:	72.0 -56.5 0.0177 0.2780
	0	-2	4th:	0.0341 0.3743 Type 1 delay
0	-1	-1	2nd:	172.4 -32.8 0.0308 0.1806
	-2	-2	4th:	0.0199 0.5849 Type 1 delay
-1 -2	0	-1 -2	2nd: 4th:	281.1 -43.4 0.0229 0.2290 0.0238 0.4924 Type 1 delay
-0	0	-2	2nd:	45.0 -82.4 0.0166 0.5619 Type 2 delay_a
0	0	-3	3rd:	0.0237 0.5941 Type 2 delay_b

What is claimed is:

1. Sound processing apparatus for creating illusory sound sources in three dimensional space comprising:

means for providing audio signals;

reverberation means for generating at least one reverberant stream of signals from the audio signals to simulate a desired configuration of reflected sound; and,

directionalizing means for applying to at least part of one reverberant stream a predetermined directionalizing pinna transfer function to generate at least one output signal.

- 2. The apparatus of Claim 2 wherein a plurality of reverberant streams are generated by the reverberation means and wherein the directionalizing means applies a directionalizing transfer function to each reverberant stream to generate a plurality of directionalized reverberant streams from each reverberant stream, and further comprises output means for producing a plurality of output signals each output signal comprising the sum of a plurality of directionalized reverberant streams each derived from a different reverberant stream.
- 3. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein reverberant stream includes at least one direct sound component and wherein the pinna directional cue is superimposed on the direct sound component.
- 4. The apparatus of Claim 2 further comprising filter means for filtering at least one directionalized reverberant stream.
- 5. The apparatus of Claim 3 wherein at least one part of one reverberant stream is emphasized.
- 6. The apparatus of Claim 2 further comprising scaling means for scaling the audio signals to simulate sound absorption.
- 7. The apparatus of Claim 2 further comprising filter means for filtering the audio signals to simulate sound absorption.
- 8. The apparatus of Claim 2 wherein the reverberation means comprises scaling filter means for simulating sound absorption of reverberant sound reflections.

- 9. The apparatus of Claim 2 wherein the reverberation means comprises first recirculating delay means, having a delay buffer and feedback control, for generating reverberant signals from audio signals.
- 10. The apparatus of Claim 9 wherein the reverberation means comprises second recirculating delay means, having two delay buffers and two feedback controls, for generating reverberant signals from audio signals.
- 11. The apparatus of Claim 10 wherein the reverberation means further comprises a plurality of first and second recirculating delay means configured in parallel with a least one second recirculating delay means feeding back to at least one first recirculating delay means.
- 12. The apparatus of Claim 1 further comprising means for controlling the reverberation means and directionalizing means responsive to input control signals including means to independently control presence and definition.
- 13. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the directionalizing means of further comprises means for dynamically changing the pinna transfer functions to simulate sound source and listener motion.
- 14. The apparatus of Claim 2 wherein each reverberant stream simulates reflections from a selected spatial region and wherein each said reverberant stream is directionalized to provide the illusion of emanating from said selected region.
- 15. A method of processing sound signals comprising of steps of:

generating at least one reverberant stream of audio signals simulating a desired configuration of reflected sounds; and,

superimposing at least one pinna directional cue on at least part of one reverberant stream.

- 16. The method of Claim 15 wherein the step of generating comprises generating at least one direct sound component as part of at least one reverberant stream.
- 17. The method of Claim 15 further comprising the step of filtering at least one of the reverberant streams.

- 18. The method of Claim 15 further comprising the step of emphasizing at least part of one reverberant stream.
- 19. The method of Claim 15 wherein the step of generating further comprising the step of filtering during generation of the reverberant stream to simulate sound absorption.
- 20. The method of Claim 15 further comprising the step of dynamically changing the pinna transfer function to simulate sound source and listener motion.
- 21. A spatial reverberation system for simulating the spatial and temporal dimensions of reverberant sound, comprising:

means for processing audio signals to produce at least one directionalized audio stream including reverberant audio signals providing a selected spatio-temporal distribution of illusory reflected sound; and,

means for outputting the audio stream.

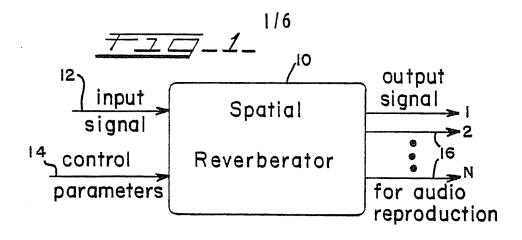
- 22. The spatial reverberation system of Claim 21 wherein the means for processing utilizes pinna transfer functions to product the directionalized audio stream.
- 23. The spatial reverberation system of Claim 21 wherein the means for processing further comprises means for dynamically changing the spatio-temporal distribution.
- 24. The spatial reverberation system of Claim 21 wherein the means for processing further comprises means for controlling sound definition and sound presence independently.
 - 25. Reverberation apparatus comprising: means for providing audio signals;

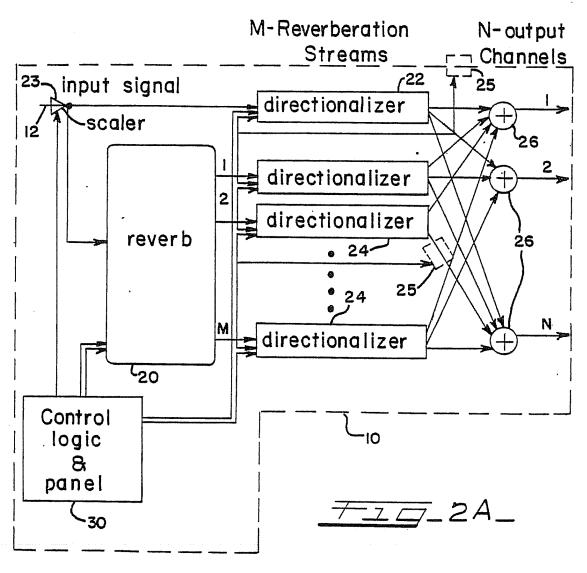
means for generating and outputting a plurality of unique parallel reverberant streams responsive to the audio signals wherein at least one reverberant stream is fed back and utilized to generate a different one of said parallel reverberant streams.

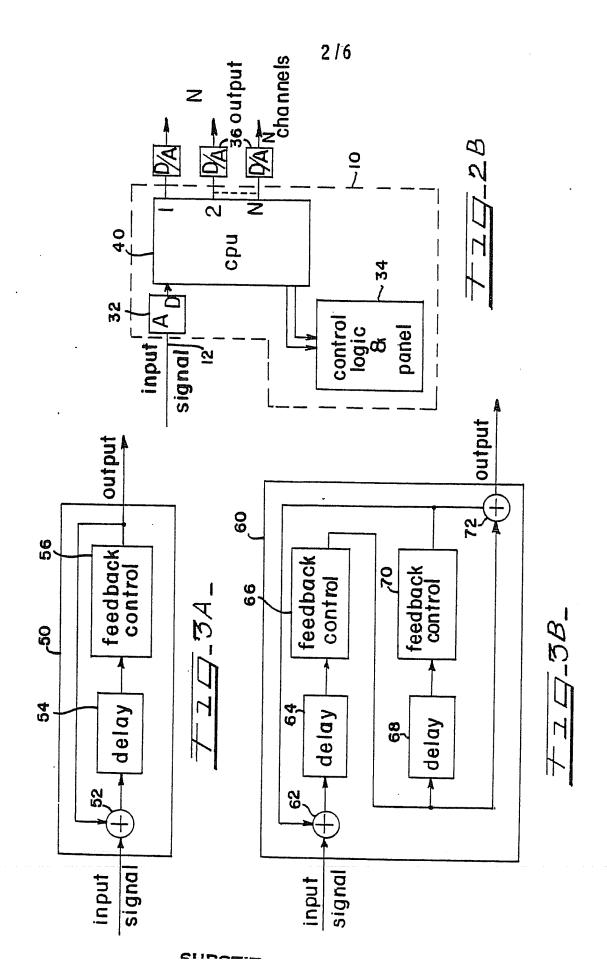
- 26. The apparatus of Claim 25 wherein the means for generating further comprises means for delay and feedback to produce a reverberant stream.
- 27. The apparatus of Claim 26 further comprising means for dual delay and feedback to produce a reverberant stream

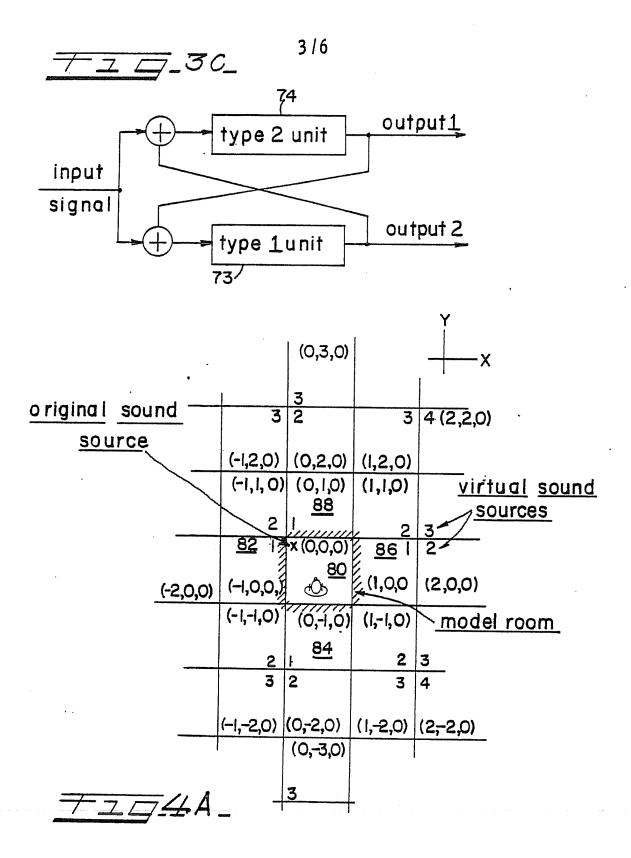
- 29 -

having a recurring pattern of reverberation with two different delays.

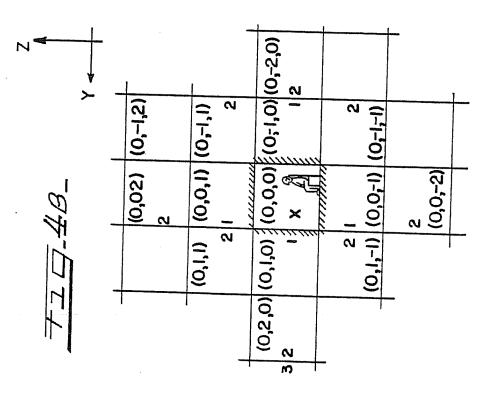




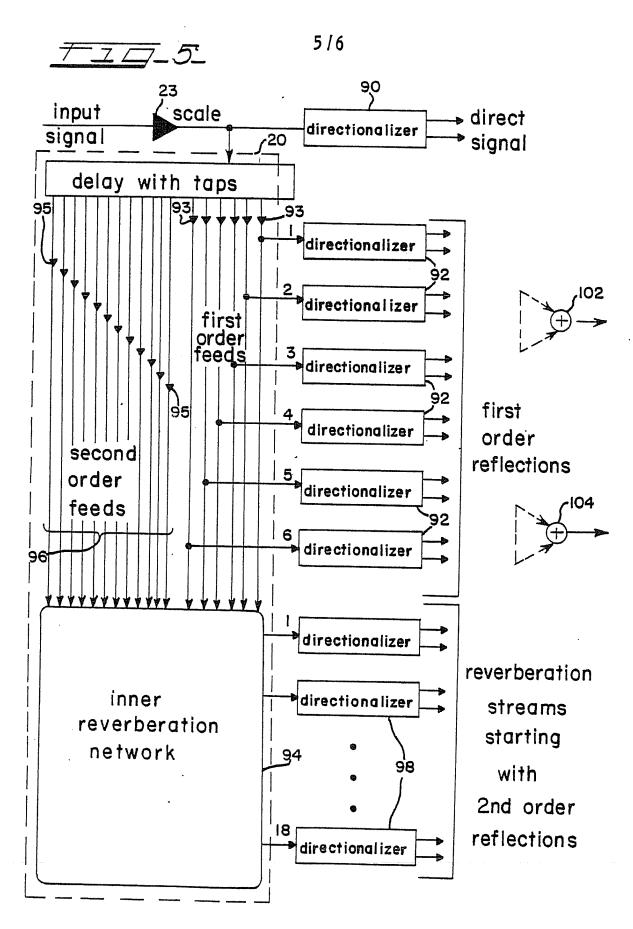




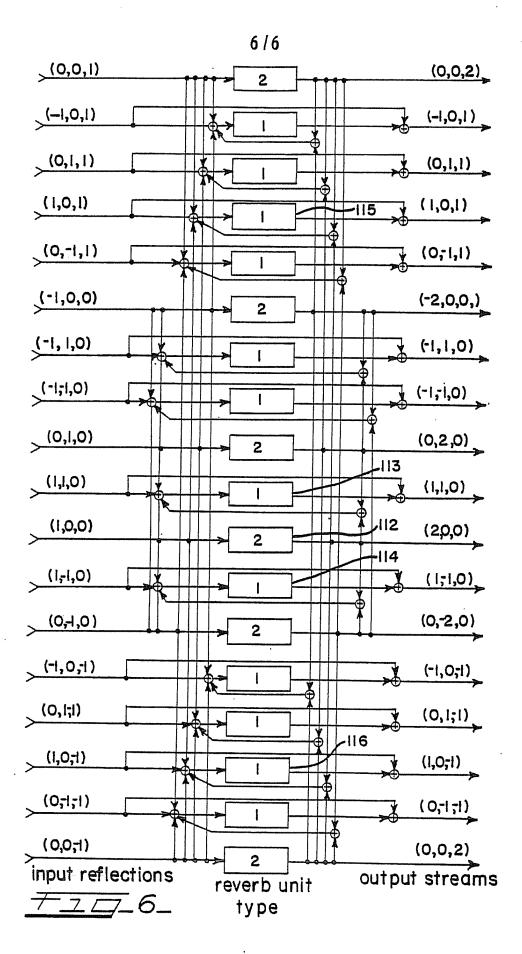
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×	- Titleman				m		4				
N	4	(2,0,2)	ю	(2,0,1)	2	(2,0,0)	ĸ	(2,0,-1)	(2,0,-2) 4		I
	(1,0,3)	(1,0,2)	2	(1,0,1)	_	(1,90)	2	(1,0,-1)	3	(1,0,-2)	(1,0,-3)
<u>'</u>	(0,0,3)	(0,02)	Ross	(0,00)	(0°0)		minn	(0,0,-1)	2	(-1,0,-2) (0,0,-2) (1,0,-2)	(0,0,-3) (1,0,-3)
<u> </u>	4 w	(-1,0,2)	N	(-1,0,1)		(-1,0,0)	N.	(-1,0,-1)	n	(-1,0,-2)	4
77	4		ro	((5,0,0)(-1,0,1)	ณ	(-2,0,0)	IO.	(2,0,-1)	4		
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CHRCTITHITE CHEST



SUBSTITUTE SHEET



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No PCT/TIS85/01987

		international Application to PCT	US85/01987				
	FICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (If several classific						
	to International Hatest Classification (IPC) of to both Nation	00					
U.S.	CL. 381/1; 381/63						
II. FIELDS	SEARCHED						
	Minimum Documenta	tion Searched 4					
Classification	n System Cl	assification Symbols					
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	Documentation Searched other the to the Extent that such Documents a	an Minimum Documentation re included in the Fields Searched 5					
	MENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT 14 Citation of Document, 18 with indication, where appro-	andste of the relevant nassages 17	Relevant to Claim No. 18				
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* Special categories of cited documents: 15 "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an invention cannot be considered to involve an invention cannot be considered to involve an invention and in the principle or theory underlying the cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an invention cannot be considered to involve an invention and invention cannot be considered to involve an invention cannot be considered to involve an invention cannot be considered to involve an invention and invention cannot be considered to involve an invention cannot be considered to involve							
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